

HA-319

Edward M. Allen House
725 Darlington Road
Darlington vicinity
Private

c. 1880

The Edward M. Allen House is important for its association with Allen, the owner after 1880 of the Stafford Mill near the mouth of Deer Creek. Allen converted the former gristmill to a bone mill. He also owned the flint mill at Stafford and, in partnership with James Wilson, the Conowingo flint mill, later known as Indian Rock Flint Company.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Edward M. Allen House

AND/OR COMMON

Kelvin Grove Manor

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

725 Darlington Road

CITY, TOWN

Darlington

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

☒ Not applicable

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Oakie H. Bishop, Jr.

Telephone #: 836-3803

STREET & NUMBER

725 Darlington Road

CITY, TOWN

Darlington

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
MD 21034

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 970

Folio #: 490

STREET & NUMBER

40 So. Main St.

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE
MD

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

c. 1970

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE
MD

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Edward M. Allen House is a three sectioned coursed stone house with two stories and a slate gable roof dating from the last quarter of the 19th century. It is located on the east side of Darlington Road (MD 161) about one-tenth of a mile north of Deer Creek in Harford County, Maryland.

The structure consists of two parallel gabled sections on an east-west axis perpendicular to a third gabled section on the west. The present orientation of the house is to the north, but a formal entry on the west elevation suggests this may have been an earlier main facade.

The north elevation is composed of a dormered 1-½ story section adjoining the gable end of the west wing. The three dormers are faced with board and batten. A shed entry porch with a scroll-sawn balustrade is located on the east end of the dormered section. A low one-story projection to the north may have been a springhouse or dairy, judging by its height, proportions, and the cupola on its gable roof. This projection also has dormers and a frame upper section. There is a double door on the north end of the projection. This extension has been completely renovated on the interior and is joined to the dormered section. The north gable end of the west wing has a columned entry porch.

The west elevation has an irregular arrangement of bays, with five on the first floor and three on the second floor. The center entrance has a plain pilastered surround and a simple triglyph and metope frieze. The three dormers on the second level have board and batten facing.

A modern flagstone terrace is on the south elevation, which is an irregular arrangement of adjoining sections. The fenestration of the house is mostly six-over-six sliding sash with storm windows or screens over several windows. The dormers have four-over-four sash.

According to the present owner, the oldest section of the house is the 1-½ story section with the small springhouse or dairy extension. The original inventory form on this site, completed in a 1970 windshield survey, suggested that the present house was rebuilt in the second half of the 19th century around an earlier stone house.

The present outbuildings consist of a modern concrete block garage about 50 yards southeast of the house, a small frame house about 30 yards northeast of the house, and two large modern barns about 100 yards north. The frame house is a one-room cabin on a stone foundation with an exterior stone chimney on the east. The gable roof is slate and the exterior is white painted clapboard. The size and location of the house suggests that it may have been a slave or servant's quarters. On the east side of the barns, a long stone retaining wall may be a remnant of an earlier barn on this site.

There are two tenant houses associated with the E.M. Allen House. See HA-320, Allen Tenant House, for information on the older of the two. The newer house is a two-story concrete block structure with an apartment over a garage, which is located on the north bank of Deer Creek about 100 yards south of the Allen House. It appears to have been built about 1940.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
X 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X OTHER (SPECIFY) local history	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1880

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Edward M. Allen House is significant for its association with Allen, the owner after 1880 of the Stafford Mill near the mouth of Deer Creek. Allen converted the former gristmill to a bone mill. He also owned the flint mill at Stafford and, in partnership with James Wilson, the Conowingo flint mill, later known as Indian Rock Flint Company.

William Stump Forwood, in his "Homes on Deer Creek" series in the Aegis-Intelligencer in 1879-80, states that an older house stood on the site of the Allen House, but was burned prior to the building of the present house. The older house was owned by Rachel Wilson, Allen's mother-in-law.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

AK-57

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

McGrain, John. Monography of Harford County
Preston, W.S. Our Harford Heritage
Martenet's Map of Harford County, 1878
Forwood, William Stump. "Homes on Deer Creek", Aegis-Intelligencer, 1879-80.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 92.65

Includes the present tax parcel

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Janet L. Davis, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Dept. of Planning and Zoning

DATE

September 1982

STREET & NUMBER

45 So. Main St.

TELEPHONE

(301) 838-6000, ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

MD 21014

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

EDWARD M. ALLEN HOUSE

HA-319

HDC 970/490 Feb. 28, 1975	Grantor: Oakie H. Bishop, Jr. and wife Eunice D. Grantee: Oakie H. Bishop, Jr. Acreage: 92.65
HDC 930/110 June 27, 1973	Grahtor: Willian H. Grier and Mary B. Grier Grantee: Oakie H. Bishop, Jr. and wife Eunice D. Bishop Acreage: 92.65
GRG 635/224 Nov. 18, 1963	Grantor: Mary Hobbs Griffith, widow; Charles Hobbs Griffith and Annette C. Griffith, wife (of San Patricio County, TX) Grantee: William H. Grier and Mary B. Grier
GRG 368/223 Dec. 20, 1951	Grantor: Lester W. Tucker, Jr. and Nancy W. Tucker, his wife; and Harry C. Lawder III and Marguerite J. Lawder, his wife Grantee: William M. Griffith Acreage: 184.396, including Tract # 2, " . . . known as Kelvin Manor . . ."
GRG 335/79 Oct. 3, 1949	Grantor: Frederick H. Keer and wife Grantee: Harry C. Lawder III and wife Acreage: 3.33 \$16,000
GRG 318/262 July 31, 1948	Grantor: Alexander W. Keer, unmarried, Newark, NJ Grantee: Frederick H. Keer and Elizabeth Keer, his wife, Aurora, Ohio Acreage: 3.33 \$13,500
GCB 297/399 June 29, 1946	Grantor: Rea H. Todd, unmarried, New York City Grantee: Alexander W. Keer, Frederick H. Keer and Elizabeth Rhoades Keer, his wife Acreage: 3.33
GCB 291/161 Oct. 10, 1945	Grantor: Sylvia Sawyer Todd Grantee: Rea H. Todd (Property settlement in divorce action)
GCB 271/197 Feb. 16, 1942	Grantor: James R. Manning and wife, Miriam S. D. Manning Grantee: Rea H. Todd and wife Acreage: 184.396 "Kelvin Manor"
SWC 239/81 Nov. 8, 1935	Grantor: Tom Gilbert Lawrance and Marie Grace Lawrance, his wife Grantee: James R. Manning and Miriam S. D. Manning, his wife Acreage: 184.396 "Kelvin Manor"
SWC 227/319 Nov. 8, 1933	Grantor: Grace A. T. Allen and J.A. Graeme Allen, trustee Grantee: Tom Gilbert Lawrance (J.A.G. Allen appointed trustee to sell real estate to settle equity case between McComas Brothers, complainants, and Edward M. Allen, Jr. et al, defendants. Grace A.T. Allen was wife of Edward M. Allen, Jr.)

WSF 122/100 Grantor: Margaret N. Allen and J.A. Graeme Allen, her husband
Aug. 29, 1907 Grantee: Edward M. Allen, Jr.
Acreage: 129
\$10,000

WSF 104/162 Grantor: J.A. Graeme Allen
April 14, 1902 Grantee: Margaret N. Allen
Acreage: 129
". . . \$10 and natural affection . . ."

WSF 99/258 Grantor: Edward M. Allen, Jr. and wife
Jan. 12, 1900 Grantee: J.A. Graeme Allen
Acreage: 129
\$8,000

WSF 90/48 Grantor: Edward M. Allen, trustee of Sallie E. Allen, his wife, and
Dec. 28, 1896 others
Grantee: Edward M. Allen, Jr. and J.A. Graeme Allen (brothers)

WHD 17/396 Grantor: Rachel Wilson
July 25, 1866 Grantee: Edward M. Allen, trustee for Sallie E. Allen
Acreage: about 128
\$13, 043.20
". . . for the sole and separate use of his wife Sallie E. Allen . . ."

(Transactions up to 1900 also mention quarrying rights on Coale property on south side of Deer Creek, indicating probable building activity on the Allen tract.)

1303194601
N. R. FIELD SHEET

STATE: _____

COUNTY: _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

MD. HISTORICAL TRUST
BOX 1704
ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON: Grier - Allen house

AND/OR HISTORIC: _____

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: East side of Darlington Road about 0.1 mi north

CITY OR TOWN: Darlington of Deer Creek

STATE: Maryland CODE: _____ COUNTY: Harford CODE: _____

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: Mr & Mrs William Grier

STREET AND NUMBER: Darlington Road - RFD

CITY OR TOWN: Darlington STATE: MD CODE: _____

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

STREET AND NUMBER: HARFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE 40 S. MAIN ST.

CITY OR TOWN: BEL AIR STATE: MARYLAND CODE: _____

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: _____

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: _____

DATE OF SURVEY: _____ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local ☐

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: _____

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ CODE: _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

N. R. FIELD SHEET

CONDITION

☒ ExcellentGood ☐Fair ☐(Check One)
Deteriorated ☐Ruins ☐Unexposed ☐

INTEGRITY

(Check One)

☒ AlteredUnaltered ☐

(Check One)

Moved ☐☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This pleasant stone house, 1 1/2 stories, has 3 wide ~~gables~~ ^{dormers} port frame, in the west facade. T-shaped, the main section faces west, 5 bays x 2 downstairs, (3 x 2 above). The wing runs east along the south wall, 1 1/2 stories of smaller scale with wide eaves and ~~gables~~ dormers lighting the second floor. The roof is slate. Porches north and south, and a terrace south overlooking Deer Creek.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐16th Century ☐18th Century ☐20th Century ☐15th Century ☐17th Century ☐19th Century ☐

Victorian?

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal ☐Education ☐Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☐Industry ☐losophy ☐Agriculture ☐Invention ☐Science ☐Art ☐Landscape ☐Sculpture ☐Commerce ☐Architecture ☐

Sociol/Human-

Communications ☐Literature ☐itorion ☐Conservation ☐Military ☐Theater ☐Music ☐Transportation ☐

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

This Victorian house of a wealthy
businessman, E. M. Allen, may have
been built over from an earlier
stone house.

The site, overlooking Deer Creek
among tall trees, is very nice.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: JEAN S. EWING		
ORGANIZATION MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	DATE	
STREET AND NUMBER: 50 STATE CIRCLE		
CITY OR TOWN: ANNAPOLIS	STATE MARYLAND	CODE

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

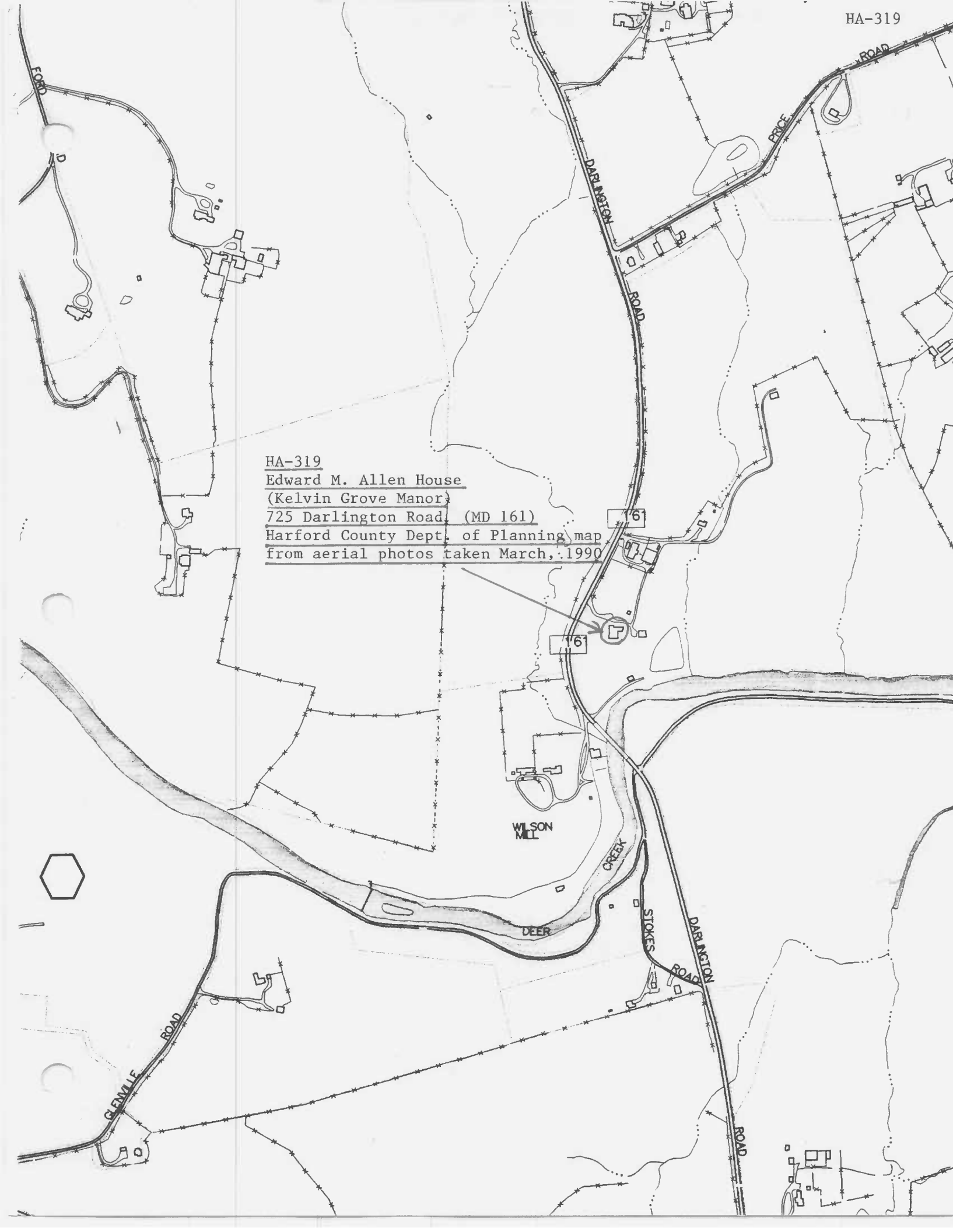
Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



HA-319

Edward M. Allen House
(Kelvin Grove Manor)

725 Darlington Road, (MD 161)

Harford County Dept. of Planning map
from aerial photos taken March, 1990

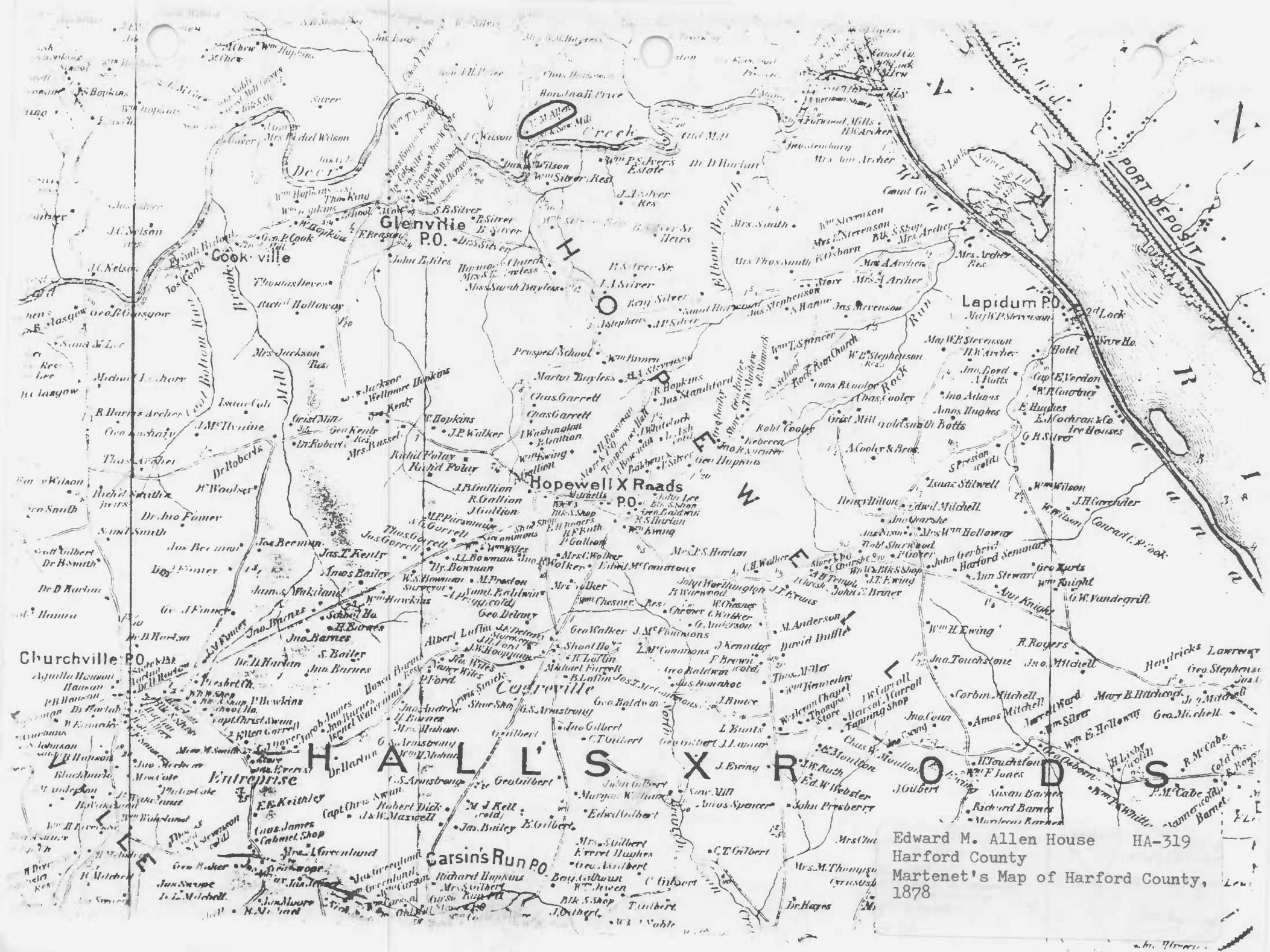
WILSON
MILL

DEER
CREEK

STOKES
ROAD

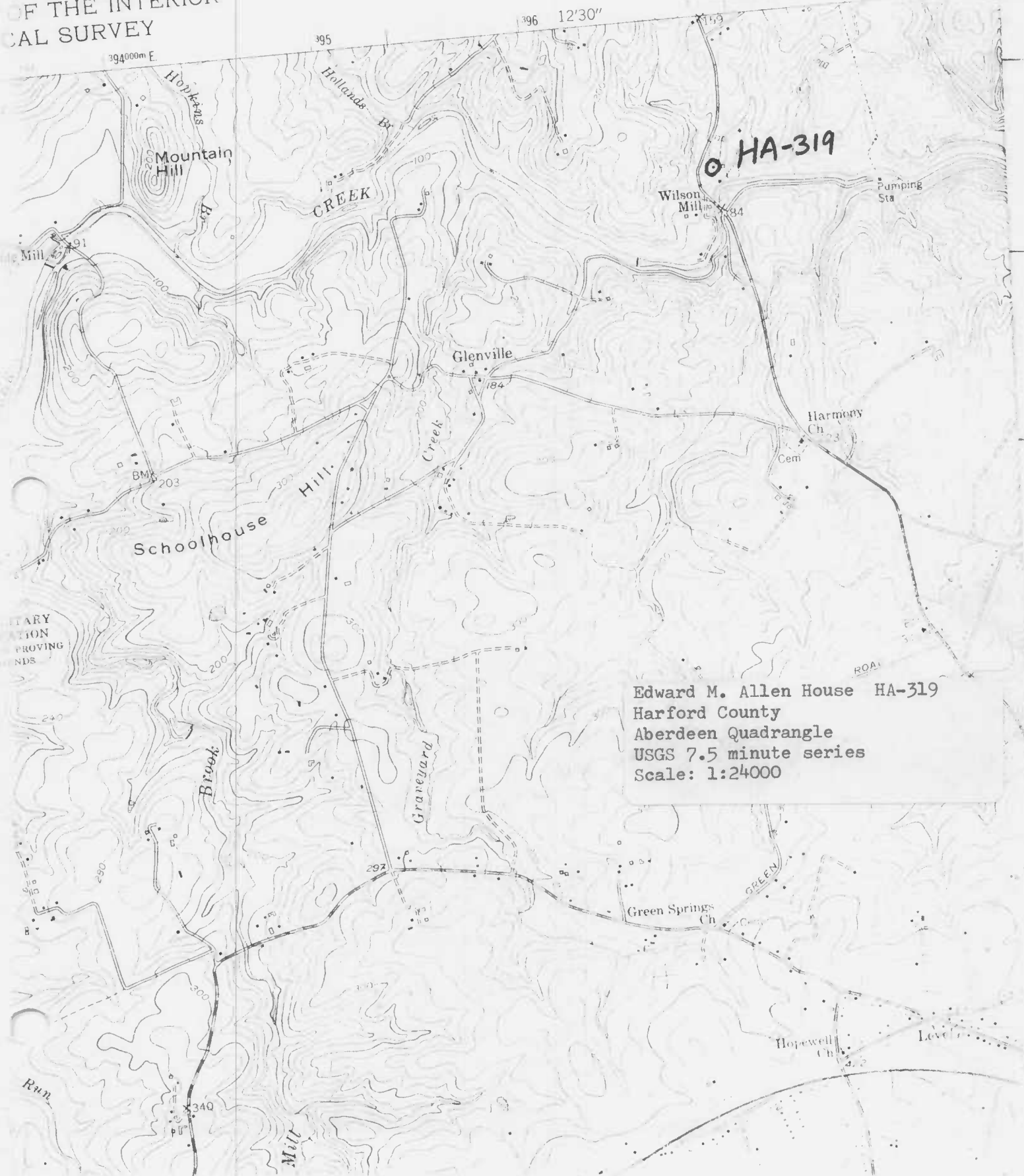
DARLINGTON
ROAD

GENNIE
ROAD



Edward M. Allen House HA-319
Harford County
Martenet's Map of Harford County, 1878

UNITED STATES
OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Edward M. Allen House HA-319
Harford County
Aberdeen Quadrangle
USGS 7.5 minute series
Scale: 1:24000